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# (12) United States Patent

# (54) SELECTABLY ENGAGED ROTARY UNION

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# Related U.S. Application Data

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## (58) Field of Classification Search

# (56) References Cited

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#### (57) ABSTRACT

A selectably engaged rotary union includes a stator body, and a rotor configured to rotate relative to the stator body, the stator body surrounding a portion of the rotor and configured to transfer a fluidic medium between the stator body and the rotor. The selectably engaged rotary union further includes a plurality of sealing elements affixed to the stator body and disposed between the stator body and the rotor, a gap being present between the plurality of sealing elements and the rotor, where the plurality of sealing elements are configured to selectably close the gap so as to produce a temporary seal between the stator body and the rotor enabling a transfer of the fluidic medium.

#### 23 Claims, 26 Drawing Sheets



